

# THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE

(ESTABLISHED 1877)

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**THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE,**  
Washington, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

**THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.**

WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 29, 1887.

**ARTICLES FORTHCOMING.**

**IN THE VALLEY.**—The Shenandoah Cam-  
paign of 1862. By Gen. Henry Capelhart,  
Fargo, D. C.

**ON TO RICHMOND.**—A Graphic Narrative  
of Capture and Captivity. By George B.  
Cleveland, Co. 9, 1st W. Va., Wellsburg, W. Va.

**HAWKINS ZOUAVES.**—The First Batta-  
lion. By J. H. E. Whitney, Sergeant,  
Co. B, 9th N. Y., New York City.

**PORT HUDSON.**—A Spirited Account  
of this Important Siege and Battle. By Wilbur  
H. Wilder, Lampasas, Tex.

**PICK AND SHOVEL.**—Campaigning with  
the Engineers. By Walter H. Parsons, Co.  
D, 50th N. Y. Eng., Loudon, Pa.

**CROSS THE PLAINS.**—A Narrative of a  
Wild Western Trip in 1867. By W. Thor-  
nton Parker, late Acting Assistant Surgeon,  
U. S. A., Newport, R. I.

**CAHABA PRISON.**—Life and Death in this  
Place of Confinement. By G. J. Treman,  
Lewistown, Pa.

**LEWISBURG.**—Campaigning and Fighting  
in West Virginia. By John T. Booth, Ser-  
geant, Co. G, 39th Ohio, Harbortell, O.

**THE "WILD CATS."**—Something About the  
103th Pa. By "K. M. S."

**TREVELLANT STATION.**—The cavalry bat-  
tle there and Gen. Custer's narrow escape.  
By Capt. N. D. Preston, 10th N. Y. Cav.,  
Pittsburg, Pa.

**IN REBEL PRISONS.**—The graphic story of  
Lillian Willis, 51st Ind. By Frank A. Myers,  
Washington, Ind.

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**PORT FILLON.**—The story of the tragedy of  
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Cav., Sheffield, Pa.

**BULL RUN, GETTYSBURG AND THE  
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Mich. Cav., Milford, Mich.

**THE LAST BLOW AT HOOB'S ARMY.**—  
The chase southward from Nashville and the  
attack on the pontons. By Lieut. Charles  
Kirk, 15th Pa. Cav., Philadelphia, Pa.

**THE WATERBURY WATCH.**

Take a Chance While It is Offered.

The Waterbury Watch Company has  
changed its plan of conducting business, and  
will henceforth only sell its watches through  
the regular jewelry stores.

We have still a small number of these  
splendid timepieces on hand, which we will  
sell at the old rates.

That is, we will send the watch—

**FREE OF COST**—To any one who will hereafter  
send us a club of 10 subscribers at \$1 each—total \$10.

—OR—

**FOR 50 CENTS**—Additional, we will send the  
watch, free of cost, to any one who will hereafter  
send us eight subscribers at \$1 each—total \$8.

**FOR 75 CENTS**—Additional, we will send the  
watch, free of cost, to any one who will hereafter  
send us six subscribers at \$1 each—total \$6.

**FOR \$1**—Additional, we will send the  
watch, free of cost, to any one who will hereafter  
send us four subscribers at \$1 each—total \$4.

**FOR \$1.25**—Additional, we will send the  
watch, free of cost, to any one who will hereafter  
send us three subscribers at \$1 each—total \$3.

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watch, free of cost, to any one who will hereafter  
send us two subscribers at \$1 each—total \$2.

**FOR \$1.75**—Additional, we will send the  
watch, free of cost, to any one who will hereafter  
send us one subscriber at \$1 each—total \$1.

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send us no subscribers at \$1 each—total \$0.

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**FOR \$2.50**—Additional, we will send the  
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## WHO IS SUFFERING?

It is very sweet and commendable in the  
President and those who think with him to  
take heed of the suffering among our citi-  
zens. It is highly praiseworthy that they  
should keep a vigilant eye for "oppression"  
and "grievous burdens," and welcome any  
"rational scheme of relief" which offers fair  
promise of diminishing this "suffering" and  
removing the "oppression." Humanity and  
patriotism alike demand that all men in  
public station shall make this a prime duty.

The main difference of opinion is as to  
where this "suffering" exists, who feel it  
most acutely, where is the greatest number  
affected by it, and to whom the first "rel-  
ief" shall be extended.

Does the number of people who are "suffer-  
ing" for want of cheaper champagne, silks,  
laces, kid gloves, railroad iron, fine china,  
and Havana cigars exceed the number of old  
soldiers who are "suffering" for the want of  
the common necessities of life, and which  
class "suffers" the most acutely.

Would taking the tax off whisky, beer,  
and tobacco bring "welcome relief" to a  
greater number of persons than the payment  
of their just dues to the hundreds of thou-  
sands of veterans who are entitled to pen-  
sions, to arrears, to equalized bounties, and  
similar honest treatment by the Nation?

If any revenue-tinker can show us any  
item or any number of items in our whole  
scheme of taxation which produces any-  
thing like the "suffering" to anything like  
the number of people that is caused by the  
failure of the Government to pay its debts  
to the soldiers, then we will be willing to  
begin the work of relief at the earliest mo-  
ment, by the removal of the item or items  
from the list.

This is the fair and the only fair test to be  
applied to the problem. "Relieve the suffer-  
ing," the "oppression," "the burdens,"  
by all means, but begin where the relief is  
most needed by the most people, where the  
"burdens" are most "grievous."

It is charlatanism to talk of relieving  
the suffering of the drinker of fine  
French liquors, the smoker of choice  
Havana cigars, the weavers of silks and  
laces, by ignoring the "suffering" of the  
disabled veteran who is condemned to the  
poor-house.

It is cruel quackery to take the bread  
from the mouths of veterans and widows  
and orphans in order to swell the profits of  
the distiller, the brewer, the tobacco man-  
ufacturer, and the importer of the luxuries of  
the rich.

**A TRUE FRIEND.**

The veteran has no friend in either House  
of Congress more constant and zealous than  
Hon. John J. Ingalls, Senator from Kansas  
and President pro tem of the Senate. He is a  
friend, too, who has ability in proportion to  
his zeal. No better equipt man for all the  
duties of a legislator ever sat in either  
House—great natural talent and aptitude  
for public affairs being supplemented by  
long experience and high success. He is  
one of the real leaders in the councils of  
the Nation, and no word or act of his is  
without strong influence.

From the very first he has been an active  
advocate of the greatest liberality to vet-  
erans; he has introduced a number of bills  
of great importance, and he has ably and  
earnestly supported all measures that  
have come before that body looking toward  
doing justice to the country's defenders.

The abolition of the iniquitous limitation to  
arrears of pensions has received his particu-  
lar attention, and he has repeatedly in-  
troduced and advocated with all his great  
eloquence and force bills providing for the  
repeal of the limitation. He has already  
introduced a bill of this kind at this session,  
and as soon as it comes before the Senate  
will make unusual efforts to secure its pas-  
sage.

If they can succeed in cutting down the  
revenue, what hypocritical airs these men  
will put on as they say, "I am and always  
have been in favor of liberal pensions to the  
soldiers, but there is no money in the Treas-  
ury but what is absolutely needed for run-  
ning the Government, and we dare not im-  
pose any additional taxation, for our people  
are ground down with taxes now."

**THE LOGAN MONUMENT.**

We are receiving large numbers of contri-  
butions for the Logan monument, ranging  
from 25 cents to \$100. But there are not as  
many as should be. We want to hear from  
every reader of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE  
with some amount—large or small. Every  
one of them owes this to the memory of  
John A. Logan. Another list of acknowl-  
edgments will be published next week.

**ADMITTING IT** is true—which it is not—  
that the purchaser in this country has to  
pay the duty on the imported article, in ad-  
dition to its retail price in England, is this  
"suffering" on that account to be compared  
to that of the man who whose services for  
his country have disabled him from pro-  
curing by his own labor the barest neces-  
saries of life?

Asst. Adj't Gen. Faunce, Department of  
the Potomac, is in receipt of a communica-  
tion from Commander-in-Chief Rhea stat-  
ing that he expects to be in Washington  
from the 17th to the 19th of January and  
would be gratified to meet the comrades of  
the Department in their annual Encampment.

Who "suffers" the most, the 100,000 vet-  
erans who are trying to support life on pen-  
sions ranging from \$1 to \$5.25 a month, or  
the men who want their fine linen and sumptu-  
ous daily fare cheapened?

Have you done your share toward doubling  
THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE'S circulation?

THE above picture shows the exact size of  
the elegant badge designed for the members  
of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE'S Conversation  
Club. It is made of coin silver, and makes  
a very pretty ornament. We will send it to  
any address on receipt of \$1.

**THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE,**  
Washington, D. C.

**CONVERSATION CLUB BADGE.**

There is no better Christmas present for a  
boy than one of these watches.

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## THE BEST WAY.

The best way to "reduce taxation" is to  
take out of the poorhouses the tens of thou-  
sands of old soldiers who are supported there  
by the local taxpayers.

Let the Government take this burden  
upon its broad shoulders and so reduce those  
which the municipalities, Counties and States  
have to bear. The people do not care to  
have their National taxes reduced, for they  
do not feel them any more than they feel  
the weight of the air they breathe. But  
they do want their local taxes reduced, for  
these are everywhere oppressive and annoy-  
ing. Every disabled soldier whom the Gov-  
ernment supports is just that much of a bur-  
den taken off the communities in which he  
lives—just that much reduction of local  
taxation—just that much return of money  
to the pockets of the people for application  
to other local objects.

**Somebody** has to support the disabled sol-  
diers, and that somebody ought to be the  
United States Government.

The soldiers did not lose their limbs and  
strength fighting for the little Township or  
County which now supports them, but for the  
whole country, and the whole country  
join in supporting them.

If, as is computed, there are 15,000 dis-  
abled soldiers in the poorhouses of the coun-  
try, then there are 15,000 mean and unjusti-  
fiable impositions, by the rich and powerful  
United States Government upon the vastly  
weaker and poorer municipal and County  
Governments. The United States is shrink-  
ing just that many honest debts which it is  
its duty to pay. It is defrauding the local  
taxpayers of every dollar that is taken from  
them for the support of these poor men.

**HOW MUCH IS THE SURPLUS?**

A careful figuring over of the Govern-  
ment's income, expenditures and liabilities  
does not reveal any such enormous sur-  
plus as the revenue-reducers would have us  
believe exists. They clamor that it is \$100,-  
000,000, but, taking all things into consid-  
eration, it is less than one-quarter that amount.

For example, the estimates by the Secre-  
tary of the Treasury of the National income  
for the coming year is \$410,000,000. That  
official estimates that the expenditures for  
the same period will be \$355,000,000. This  
would leave an apparent surplus of \$55,000,  
000, but there are some items which the Sec-  
retary has not counted in. The first is be-  
tween \$10,000,000 and \$17,000,000, which  
will be called for by deficiencies and mis-  
cellaneous expenditures made necessary by  
the failure of Congress to pass the Deficiency  
Bill at the last session. This would make  
the expenditures about \$402,000,000, and  
leave an apparent surplus of about \$8,000,  
000. Then comes the Fortifications and  
River and Harbor Bills, which sustained a  
pocket veto last year. The two appropri-  
ated \$19,000,000. Some part of this will have  
to be appropriated this session, in order to  
continue work which has been going on for  
some years and must be completed.

If Congress does its plain duty in provid-  
ing for the National defense by ordering the  
construction of cannon of high power suffi-  
cient to arm our seagoing, there will be no  
surplus left after the appropriation of suffi-  
cient money to carry out the provisions of  
the Disability Pension Bill and other mea-  
sures recommended by the G. A. R. National  
Pension Committee.

So the revenue tinkers will really have no  
work to do, unless they want to cripple the  
Government in the payment of its just debts  
and the carrying on of necessary improve-  
ments.

**THE CONSPIRACY.**

We reiterate that there is a conspiracy  
among the soldier-haters and the money-  
lords of the country to reduce the revenues  
so as to prevent both the increase of pensions  
to veterans and the payment of the debt to  
the bondholders. At the bottom and ani-  
mating all the talk about revenue reduction  
are these sinister and selfish motives. One  
class hates the soldiers and their pensions,  
the other wants to fasten the public debt  
upon the people for all time and force them  
to continue to pay interest, even to the third  
and fourth generations.

The way to defeat these designs is for  
every veteran and patriotic citizen to stand-  
fastly insist that there shall be no distur-  
bance of our revenue system until all the  
country's debts are paid, and that every one  
of these debts should be paid as rapidly as it  
is possible to settle with the creditors.

The veterans are deeply interested in this,  
and will scrutinize with the greatest care  
the course of their Representatives in Con-  
gress upon it.

**THE custom** of making cases special by  
the Commissioner of Pensions, on sworn  
statements of the great age, helplessness or  
indigence of the claimant, has grown to such  
dimensions that Gen. Black has been com-  
pelled to institute a regulation, which is  
to have every such case, after the lapse of a  
certain time without definite result, specially  
examined. In every case where misrepresen-  
tation has been made or fraud employed to  
secure a "special," the case is taken from  
the special list and placed at the bottom of  
the general list, so that instead of receiving  
consideration in advance of other claims of  
the same age, it is put behind them in its  
turn. Gen. Black is of opinion that this will  
work justice to all concerned, and tend to  
discourage dishonest claimants from at-  
tempts to gain an advantage by misrepresen-  
tation. This is in entire harmony with  
the many just and decided reforms which  
Gen. Black has introduced into the adminis-  
tration of his great Bureau.

**THE gentry** who worship everything Eng-  
lish, "ye know," would like to fasten on  
to this country that peculiarly lovely Eng-  
lish institution, "a permanent National  
debt." Pay it off; we do not want it.

The report of missionary work in Asia is  
not encouraging to those who believe that  
we have money and energy to spare from  
the conversion of our heathen at home for  
the evangelization of these on the banks of  
the Ganges and the Yangtze Kiang. The  
Rev. Isaac Taylor, Canon of York, stated to  
the recent Congress of the Episcopal Church  
that the Mahometan religion was advancing  
much faster in Asia than the Christian. In  
the northern and central Provinces of India  
the conversions to Mahometanism last year  
exceeded 600,000, while there were none to  
Christianity. The Church Missionary So-  
ciety, which employs 897 missionaries and  
native agents in India at an annual expense of  
\$250,000, reported that last year it only made  
297 converts, in a population of 230,000,000.

In Persia, Palestine, Arabia and Egypt the  
Church Missionary Society has 109 mission-  
aries, costing \$80,000 a year, and last year they  
converted and baptized but one adult in  
all that vast region. In Ceylon the Society  
has 371 missionaries and agents, cost-  
ing \$50,000 a year, and last year they only  
converted 207 persons. In China the Society  
has 219 missionaries, costing \$90,000 a year,  
and last year they converted and baptized  
but 380 persons. It would seem that the  
Church Missionary Society could find a  
much more fruitful field of labor in the  
slums of London.

**In spite** of the decision rendered by the  
Plenary Council which assembled in Balti-  
more a couple of years ago, and at which the  
question was fairly presented by Comrades  
Rosenbaum, Newton, Konitz and other Cath-  
olic members, Rev. Father Borneman, of  
Reading, Pa., refuses to allow the G. A. R. to  
inter a deceased Catholic comrade with its  
ceremonies. Last week the Post at Read-  
ing followed one of its members, Chas. Ro-  
tenberger, to the church, where Father  
Borneman refused to allow it to enter in re-  
galia or wearing badges. Quite a discussion  
took place, and a number of the family were  
in favor of burying the deceased in the Grand  
Army lot, but finally it was decided to yield  
to the priest's will and bury him in the  
Catholic lot without any G. A. R. ceremonies.

We think that when this act is brought to  
the attention of the Church authorities that  
Father Borneman's course will be disap-  
proved, since the Plenary Council expres-  
sly declared that the Grand Army was not a  
secret society in the meaning of the disci-  
pline of the Church against such organiza-  
tions.

**CANADA** is the most thinly populated of  
all the great countries of the world, having  
only 1.35 people to the square mile. The  
most densely populated is India, which has  
311.57 to the square mile. The United  
States has an average of 13.92 to the square  
mile. Our most densely-populated State is  
Rhode Island, which has 254.9 to the square  
mile. Next comes Massachusetts, with  
221.8, and New Jersey, with 151. Our most  
sparsely-populated State is Nevada, with 0.3  
people to the square mile, and Oregon, with  
but 0.9.

**THE idea** is sedulously inculcated that  
money paid out in pensions is in some way  
lost. Nothing could be more preposterous.  
If \$100,000,000 is disbursed to pen-  
sioners it is merely returned to the people.  
It is a proper and healthful process. It re-  
stores money now locked up and useless to  
activity and usefulness. There is no better  
way of averting a financial stringency and  
getting much-needed money into the veins  
of commerce than to devote the surplus to  
discharging the Nation's debts to its soldiers.

**It is claimed** that cremation is making  
many converts in this country. While we  
believe that it is possibly a better way of  
disposing of the dead than by interment,  
yet